Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty

The Humane Society of the United States
Annual Report 2010

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Hero for Puppies: After seeing for herself the inside of a puppy mill and learning where her own beloved dog came from, Amanda Hearst helped raise $1 million for The HSUS’s campaign against mass breeding facilities.

Shutting Down Puppy Mills: Page 34

The Accidental Activist: When Cristin Tank and her family saw the cruel activities next door, they didn’t stay silent, helping bring an end to fox and coyote penning in Florida.

Protecting Wildlife: Page 22

Compassionate Farmer: Bruce Rickard, who pays special attention to animal behavior on his farm and lets chickens be free to express their “chicken-ness,” has joined the fight against extreme confinement practices.

Protecting Farm Animals: Page 8

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Only through determined, multipronged, and strategic action can we overcome these many roadblocks and make animals’ lives better, bringing us all closer to creating a humane society.

We must of course focus on the crises right in front of us, and we do. There’s no time to waste because animals are homeless, in distress, or in fighting pits right now. That’s why The HSUS has developed so many capabilities to provide hands-on care for animals in need—through our five animal care centers, our veterinary services programs, our disaster response work, and our emergency deployments in cases of cruelty and neglect. In 2010, we provided direct care and relief to about 100,000 animals, putting our assets to use in so many areas where local communities do not have the resources or the expertise to step in and provide relief where needed.

But if that’s all we did, we would be failing in our mission. Our great charge must be to prevent cruelty. If we only come to the aid of animals already injured, left homeless, or otherwise in distress, we will expend all of our resources attacking the symptoms of the problem. We must expand our efforts to strike at the root causes of cruelty, so that animals don’t get in trouble in the first place.

Take, for instance, our successful effort in Missouri to pass Prop B, a ballot measure to crack down on puppy mills. There are 3,000 mills in the state, with perhaps 200,000 breeding animals and up to 1 million puppies churned out each year by these large-scale breeders. If we just rescued the discards or came to the aid of animals already injured, left homeless, or otherwise in distress, we would expend all of our resources attacking the symptoms of the problem. We must expand our efforts to strike at the root causes of cruelty, so that animals don’t get in trouble in the first place.

We’ve not yet shut down Canada’s seal hunt, but we are methodically closing down markets for seal skins and diminishing the commercial value of the pelts, making the whole enterprise for the sealers and the government of Canada a losing proposition. Through these efforts, we are saving hundreds of thousands of seal pups every year, and we’ll not relent until the job is finished once and for all.

So much of our mission involves exposing abuse and holding it up to the light of day, reminding people that the mistreatment of animals violates the standards and ideals of our civil society. In 2010, The HSUS conducted five major exposés of factory farming, investigating some of the largest companies in agribusiness and exposing their extreme and callous confinement of animals raised for food. Factory farming is an example of human creativity and innovation divorced from conscience. We are reminding the American public about the need to sync our economic institutions and our commercial practices with our values and ideals.

Because the animals have no voice, we must act as their surrogates and call others to a more honorable and decent standard of care for creatures less powerful than ourselves. Our challenge is compounded by the resistance of our political adversaries, who are often not only wedded to the status quo but also well-equipped to defend their positions in the political domain. Only through determined, multipronged, and strategic action can we change the game so that the interests of the most powerful are not always the most respectable.

Similarly, we also work at the federal level to combat systemic abuses of animals. Each year, 73 million sharks are killed globally for their fins, used as an ingredient in soup. By strengthening our federal law to ban finning, as well as working in international circles to curb the industry, we are helping to prevent the gruesome killing of so many of these creatures.

We’re not just limiting these abuses to the ocean. Last year, we also exposed the archaic practice of bear baiting in South Carolina, plus cockfighting in Texas and so many other cruel practices throughout the nation.

It’s part of our effort to throw back the curtain on animal abuse, and to call the good people of America to act on their conscience.

And person by person, we are spreading the message— to young people in urban communities, to people of faith, to law enforcement officials, to political leaders, and even to corporate leaders involved in industries that must find a new pathway to conduct their business or entertainment.

There’s no group in the world like The HSUS. It brings more capabilities, more know-how, and more urgency to the fight for animals than any group ever has. As we press forward on so many fronts, we need your help more than ever.

We are grateful for all you do for us, and your continued support will allow us to expand our efforts to usher in changes for animals that we’ve worked so long to achieve.

Wayne Pacelle
President & CEO
The Humane Society of the United States
11,000 animals are saved by the Animal Rescue Team in 51 emergency rescues involving animal fighting operations, puppy mills, hoarding cases, and other abusive situations

3,380+ reports are fielded by animal cruelty experts, who also advise law enforcement agencies in more than 365 cases

A $250,000 grant for large-scale animal rescue operations is awarded to The HSUS for being voted a top cause in the Pepsi Refresh online contest

1,300 animal protection professionals and volunteers participate in disaster response training

Humane Society International provides disaster relief for animals in partnership with local groups in Haiti, China, Mexico, and Chile

After seeing the absolute squalor these people and animals lived in, you can’t help but feel anything but sorrow for both. But then you get to see the whole ordeal come to an end, and you see the compassion the animals get from the staff and the volunteers, and it really does make the overload of sights, smells, sounds, and emotions you’ve experienced over the last eight hours worthwhile.

—Photographer Bradley Boner on bearing witness to an HSUS rescue of 157 cats from a Wyoming home and their subsequent emergency care
When HSUS rescuers first laid eyes on the dog now known as Chunk, he was standing on a layer of feces and trash, in the front room of a bug-infested house in rural Mississippi (above, left). The floor was so deep in filth, it squished when responders walked on it.

Throughout a long, rainy day, teams removed 181 animals from the property belonging to a hoarder masquerading as a rescue group. Many of them were malnourished and plagued by worms and skin infections. After a long trip north on the HSUS rig, Chunk was taken in and treated by the Washington Animal Rescue League. These days, he looks like a different dog (above, right)—”more basset-y in the snout,” says adopter Dan Metcalf, noting that when he and his wife first got Chunk, his face was swollen and misshapen from skin disease and medications.

The dog’s affable nature has helped bring out the best in his new playmate, Daisy, a rescued boxer. “They balance each other out really well,” Metcalf says. “She was isolated; she was tied up in a backyard. … He’s very much a go-getter and friendly, and she’s kind of shy and jumpy, but they both sort of bring each other to the center.”

Happy endings are common following rescues by The HSUS. Once chained at dogfighting operations, pit bulls like Abby will never have to fight again. Fostered by a Casa Del Toro Pit Bull Education & Rescue volunteer named Holly, Abby befriended Holly’s grandfather during his hospice stay. “Grandpa would have them mark on the calendar when Abby would come back for the next visit,” reports the group’s director, Laurie Adams. Now living permanently with Holly, the dog is enjoying her newfound purpose in life: as a family pet.
[ Protecting Farm Animals ]

- 5 undercover investigations reveal endemic cruelties and food safety concerns at U.S. factory farms
- California is first state to ban sales of whole battery cage eggs, while major companies such as Kraft Foods commit to dramatically increase their cage-free purchases
- Ohio agriculture leaders agree to phase out or limit the worst confinement systems
- A federal court rules against foie gras producer for Clean Water Act violations
- The USDA announces stronger oversight of the federal humane slaughter law
- Cruelty charges stemming from an HSUS 2009 investigation result in conviction of a former slaughterhouse co-owner and employee

Industrial farms are not a step forward. Somewhere along the line, animals became machines, and cogs in machines. They’re replaceable parts; when a chicken dies in a cage, you pluck it out and stick another one in. Same thing with a hog. We don’t operate that way. We still practice traditional forms of husbandry. We know about animal behavior, and we have a long-standing relationship with these animals.

— Bruce Rickard, an Ohio farmer who has joined The HSUS’s fight against extreme confinement practices
“I’ve seen some terrible things in my undercover experience, but nothing even begins to compare to these battery cage facilities,” says the HSUS investigator of the 25 days he worked for Rose Acre Farms and Rembrandt Enterprises.

At four facilities, he documented the cruelly typical of factory-style caging systems. Countless animals suffered painful injuries and illnesses; many became trapped in cage wire and slowly perished. Survivors didn’t fare much better. After months of battery cage life, they were rendered “hollow shells” of birds, he says—scrawny, featherless, defeated creatures ground up for chicken byproducts or slaughtered for low-grade meat.

Nearly 270 million chickens—more than 90 percent of U.S. commercial turkey industry, which produces more than 250 million birds each year. Willmar and one of its customers defended the abuses as standard industry methods, and enlisting public support for reforms.

It makes me angry for people who buy these products in the grocery stores, where everything is bright and clean. The barns are not bright. They’re not clean. It’s not at all what it seems.

—An HSUS undercover investigator who spent a month at a Cal-Maine Foods facility in Texas, where four "housekeepers" were expected to care for 240,000 animals each.

**Locations:** Winterset, Stuart, Guthrie Center, and Thompson, Iowa

**Exposed:** Second and third largest egg producers in the U.S.

**Exposed:** Largest turkey hatchery in the U.S.

Days before Thanksgiving, an HSUS investigation revealed the unappetizing reality behind industrially produced turkey products. Working at the Willmar Poultry Company, an investigator videotaped conveyor belts drenched in the blood of young turkeys, whose toes, snoods, and beaks were cut off with no anesthetic. Sick and injured hatchlings fell from conveyor belts and flapped helplessly for hours on the factory floor—until the end of the day, when they and any surplus birds were tossed into a machine that ground them up alive.

It was The HSUS’s first undercover exposé of the U.S. commercial turkey industry, which produces more than 250 million birds each year. Willmar and one of its customers defended the abuses as standard industry practices. Sadly, they’re correct: Federal animal welfare laws don’t apply to animals on the farm, enabling businesses to treat birds as mere production units.

The HSUS is urging the industry to adopt higher standards, including more humane slaughter methods, and enlisting public support for reforms. “Investigations like this are shining a bright light on this very dark world of factory farming,” says The HSUS’s Paul Shapiro. “The more Americans learn about the routine abuses, the greater the demand for change.”

**Location:** Willmar, Minnesota

**Exposed:** Largest turkey hatchery in the U.S.

At a massive pig breeding farm owned by a Smithfield Foods subsidiary, an HSUS undercover investigator documented the miserable lives of breeding sows virtually immobilized in gestation crates. Open pressure sores and untreated abscesses were common. Some animals showed compulsive swaying and head-bobbing; others chewed the cage bars until their mouths bled. Outside the crates, the animals were treated roughly—struck with iron rods or even thrown into a dumpster to die.

The widely publicized video footage hit a public nerve, adding pressure on Smithfield and other pork producers to end the use of gestation crates. “If you’re not already anti-factory-farming, this will do it,” wrote New York Times Magazine columnist Mark Bittman in his blog. “…The video leaves me pretty much speechless.” Grist food and agriculture columnist Tom Philpott had a similar reaction, concluding: “Thank goodness we have the Humane Society acting as our eyes on the meat-factory floor.”

**Location:** Waverly, Virginia

**Exposed:** Industrial pig breeding facility owned by the world’s largest pork producer

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**Location:** Waelder, Texas

**Exposed:** Largest egg producer in the U.S.

At Cal-Maine Foods’ million-chicken egg operation, two details were inescapable: animal suffering and filth. The fly infestation in one barn was so severe, says the HSUS undercover investigator who worked there in November, it was like “walking on Rice Krispies.” Hens and eggs were covered in chicken waste that rained down from the cages above.

The exposé occurred in the wake of the nation’s largest egg recall, in which a half-billion eggs from battery cage facilities were deemed at risk for salmonella contamination. The HSUS ran ads reminding the public and policymakers that intensive confinement systems aren’t just cruel—they’re also a health danger. Citing numerous recent studies that show a clear link between battery cage confinement and salmonella contamination, The HSUS filed a complaint with the FDA about the Cal-Maine findings, asking the agency to amend the federal egg safety rule. Says The HSUS’s Dr. Michael Greger: “This is the science that the FDA cannot afford to ignore.”
Justice for Abused Calves

The calves being tormented at the Vermont slaughterhouse couldn’t walk or even stand. With the undercover camera rolling, the newborns—many with their umbilical cords still attached—were kicked, slapped, and repeatedly shocked with electric prods. Some were still conscious while they were skinned alive or had their throats slit or heads sawed off. In the months following its fall 2009 investigation, The HSUS filed a legal petition with the USDA to improve slaughterhouse calf-handling and oversight. In December 2010, the agency announced it would tighten rules requiring immediate humane euthanasia for downed cattle, plus appoint an ombudsman to hear public comments on an HSUS petition it tentatively inspected. In addition, the USDA is seeking to fund a $50,000 environmental cleanup project, obtaining its product by force-feeding ducks, had violated the federal Clean Water Act by polluting the Middle Mongaup River. Hudson Valley was ordered to pay $25,000 to $30,000 for each additional day it continues to break the law.

Marketplace Reform

Fresh from an HSUS internship and heading into her junior year at Grand Valley State University, Lena Spadacene decided to persuade the Michigan college to go cage-free. In September, she began working with a dining services advisory group. Months passed and nothing happened. So in February 2010, Spadacene collected more than 1,000 student signatures and appealed directly to the head of campus dining. Within two weeks, the first cage-free egg was cracked on campus.

“Students have way more power than they’ve been led to believe,” says Spadacene, who received The HSUS’s Student Leadership Award for her efforts. “Do something about it, because it’s possible.”

With The HSUS’s encouragement, more than 100 schools began using cage-free eggs in 2010, along with more than 100 restaurants, including major chains like Subway, and well-known brands such as Kraft Foods, Hellmann’s, and Sara Lee. Along with prior commitments from thousands of additional establishments, the changes help drive reduction in the number of products purchased from extreme confinement facilities.

Humane Society International also continued its cage-free campaign abroad, winning the first pledge in November, The HSUS’s Animal Protection Litigation team helped represent an HSUS member in a class action lawsuit against Perdue, alleging that the company is unlawfully marketing its chicken products as “Humanely Raised.”

Appealing for Action

“Humane” and “happy” are increasingly popular marketing terms—the next big thing after “organic” and “fair trade,” according to one consumer behavior analyst. Trouble is, they often don’t reflect what’s actually happening to farm animals. So in 2010, The HSUS took action against two of the most egregious perpetrators of consumer misinformation. In June, we filed a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission to stop Rose Acre Farms, the country’s second-largest egg producer, from making false and misleading animal welfare claims to consumers. And in November, The HSUS’s Animal Protection Litigation team helped represent an HSUS member in a class action lawsuit against Perdue, alleging that the company is unlawfully marketing its chicken products as “Humanely Raised.”

The truth behind the foie gras served in fine restaurants isn’t pretty either, and last year The HSUS won a major victory in a lawsuit against Hudson Valley Foie Gras. A judge ruled that the company, which obtains its product by force-feeding ducks, had violated the federal Clean Water Act by polluting the Middle Mongaup River. Hudson Valley was ordered to fund a $50,000 environmental cleanup project, plus pay $25,000 to $30,000 for each additional day it continues to break the law.

Building Momentum

It was an achievement “that few people would have thought possible for Ohio even just a couple years ago,” says Paul Shapiro, senior director of farm animal protection for The HSUS: commitments by the state’s agribusiness industry in June 2010 to phase out tiny crates for veal calves and pigs and to place a moratorium on new battery cage facilities for egg-laying hens.

In one of the nation’s top agricultural states, where millions of animals suffer in factory farms, The HSUS had laid the groundwork for the agreement with successful legislative and ballot campaigns in seven other states since 2006. And as 2010 came to a close, Shapiro and his staff continued to build on these victories, gearing up for possible ballot initiatives in Washington in 2011 and Oregon in 2012.

Overjoyed by the Ohio reforms was unemployed—salesman-turned-advocate extraordinaire David Meadows. While gathering signatures for an HSUS-led ballot initiative preempted by the negotiations, Meadows had encountered many voters angry about farm animal suffering, and he says that Ohio’s animal lovers will be holding the industry to its promises. “This is definitely something that we’ll keep up the pressure, and keep pushing for what is already happening in other states,” says Meadows, who was inspired by his volunteer experience to join the HSUS staff.

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67 state laws are enacted to address pet protection issues such as spay/neuter, humane euthanasia, and antifreeze poisoning.

Federal ban on crush videos—fetish films where women stomp small animals to death—is signed into law.

68,000+ spay/neuter surgeries result from Spay Day events in 39 countries.

58,120 dogs, cats, and equines in developing nations and underserved regions of the U.S. are sterilized or given other lifesaving care.

7,076 people receive guidance to prevent pet relinquishment through Pets for Life NYC.

4,173 pets are brought to free vaccination clinics and spay/neuter outreach events in Southern states.

550+ veterinary professionals receive training in spay/neuter, equine treatment, and field clinic operations.

We’re all aware of the overpopulation of pets, plus with the state of the economy right now, it’s obvious that people are in need of help. The HSUS has a good reputation, so it was a way to reach out to the community with a strong organization and really do some good.

—Stephen Owen, associate pastor of Shallow Well United Church of Christ in Sanford, N.C., which cohosted an October 2010 vaccine clinic and spay/neuter voucher distribution.
Talkin’ Spay/Neuter in the Gulf

Build it and they will come—a proposition validated by
Talkin’ Spay/Neuter in the Gulf
Promotional flyers were hung in grocery stores, laundromats, even check cashing outlets. In one community, mosquitoes control workers distributed information, while cable TV is not necessarily going to do it.”

Though successful, the services weren’t reaching everyone, so The HSUS helped find new ways to promote spay/neuter beyond billboards and radio and TV ads. “There’s a huge segment of our population that is underserved and that doesn’t respond or have access to the traditional marketing,” says Amanda Arrington, HSUS manager of spay/neuter initiatives. “Those are the people that we really need to get the message and the services to. Cable TV is not necessarily going to do it.”

Throughout 2010, the spay/neuter facilities and The HSUS held community outreach events to provide vaccines and microchips and talk to pet owners about the connection between unaltered pets and euthanasia.

Promotional flyers were hung in grocery stores, laundromats, even check cashing outlets. In one community, mosquito control workers distributed information, while cable TV is not necessarily going to do it.”

The unconventional marketing tactics—and a strategy of holding the events in accessible locations—made inroads into untapped client bases. In Hattiesburg, Miss., of holding the events in accessible locations—made

In Jefferson Parish, La., free pet food was snatched up by 1,500 attendees. And at an event in Lafayette, La., participants included two roommates who had been preventing litters through constant juggling of their multiple dogs to keep the males and females segregated. “They shrieked with delight when they were given the spay/neuter vouchers,” says Cory Smith, director of the HSUS Humane Communities program. “They had wanted to get them fixed for so long and had not been able to afford it.”

Such success stories bring hope to the shelter staff who struggle every day with the consequences of pet overpopulation. People like Debbie Hood, executive director of the Tupelo-Lee Humane Society in Mississippi, where about 72 percent of the animals are euthanized—close to the average for shelters across the state. “I can’t look in their eyes and not do something,” says Hood. “Maybe not today, but in the long run, we’ll eventually save a lot of lives.”

Pioneering Spay/Neuter in Haiti and Bhutan

At first, some of the Haitians were skeptical. Like most veterinarians in developing nations, they’d been trained to treat agricultural animals, not sterilize dogs. And while eager to learn new skills, they worried that the knowledge would be worthless when the Westerners left and they wouldn’t have the necessary supplies to perform the surgeries.

Dispelling such fears was just one of the challenges Humane Society International faced in 2010—the first year of an ambitious animal welfare initiative in a country that, even before the January earthquake, had not a single animal shelter, animal protection group, or low-cost veterinary clinic. HSI teams spent months assessing the situation, meeting with government officials and other NGOs, and mapping out a multiyear project with long-term sustainability.

In partnership with Best Friends Animal Society, HSI laid the groundwork for the January 2011 opening of the Haiti Animal Care and Welfare Center, which includes a veterinary hospital, community workshop space, and veterinary training center. And more than 30 Haitian vets received hands-on training in spay/neuter surgeries and companion animal care—setting the stage for high-volume sterilization and vaccination clinics for street dogs and wellness clinics for working equines throughout the island.

It’s a comprehensive, longsighted approach to improving animal welfare in developing nations. In the kingdom of Bhutan, HSI is leading the first-ever nationwide street dog spay/neuter initiative. By the end of 2010, the program had sterilized and vaccinated nearly 17,000 dogs, and it had begun training local veterinary professionals and others in the skills needed to keep the work going in the years to come.

“Our staff are reaching into every corner,” says Sunil Chawla, HSI’s lead veterinarian in Bhutan, describing the thrill of visiting a remote area and finding a dog with the telltale notched ear borne by beneficiaries of HSI’s spay/neuter program. “They are doing very hard work.”

The HSI street dog program caught the attention of animal lovers and government officials in other nations with large street dog populations. In November, the mayor of Cebu City in the Philippines signed an agreement with HSI to launch a two-year catch-neuter-release program for street dogs; other Philippine cities have expressed interest in doing the same. HSI has also helped address cultural mindsets that affect animal welfare. In Cuenca, Ecuador, we cosponsored the first adoption fair for ARCA (Activism, Rescue, and Conscience for Animals)—promoting shelter pets in a country where adoptions aren’t common. Two cats and 32 dogs found new homes at the event, which attracted more than 200 people.

In Haiti, the trickle-down effect on cultural attitudes is already apparent. “Now minds are changing,” says HSI program assistant Jean-Claude Cesaire, a Haitian native. “They are learning that animals are our neighbors, our friends; we’ve got to treat them better. The community is changing in terms of appreciation of the animals.”
Foul-Weather Friends: Long engaged in post-Katrina rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, The HSUS was there to help when the Deepwater Horizon oil spill drove out-of-work locals to surrender more animals to area shelters. “Every room had dogs in it, kennels on top of each other. You could tell they were just struggling to get any dogs out,” recalls The HSUS’s Sarah Barnett, who in June helped transport animals from two Louisiana shelters to Washington, D.C., groups.

“Knowing they’re going to a good place and a safe place, it helps transport animals from two local shelters in St. Bernard Parish to a new facility in New Orleans.”

The Show Must Go On: What happens when you play a country song backward? Your wife comes back, your truck gets fixed, and your lost dog comes home. It’s an old joke, but it was in that spirit of reversing misfortune that The HSUS rolled ahead with Animal Care Expo 2010, in country music’s mecca of Nashville, Tenn.—only a week after the city experienced heavy flooding that left the original conference site 14 feet under water. HSUS conference planners and local partners kicked into high gear, relocating the entire conference to another hotel with top-notch terminal surgeries in it. Ending terminal surgeries is just one way that HSVMA helps animals through action, advocacy, and education. In 2010, members rallied for two crucial ballot campaigns—a puppy mill initiative in Missouri and Ohio’s humane farm initiative—and worked to ban the devocalization of dogs in Massachusetts. HSVMA Field Services teams also provided $1.3 million in free veterinary care to more than 8,000 companion animals and equines in rural and underserved areas here and abroad.

A Roadmap for Shelters: Rural or urban, large or small, government-funded or private nonprofit, animal shelters face unique challenges. Everything from cage-cleaning protocols to building design to public relations ultimately impacts a shelter’s animals and its employees. To help shelters reach their highest potential, The HSUS’s Shelter Services program provides guidance, training, and on-site assessments, bringing the latest research and progressive solutions to shelters across the country.

“I’m still astonished by all we learned,” says Karen Stimpson, executive director of the Coastal Humane Society in Maine, which received an on-site evaluation in 2010. Stimpson and her staff have already implemented many of the HSUS team’s recommendations—with noticeable results. Best of all, Stimpson says, her organization now has a five-year roadmap and HSUS experts to advise them.

“Whatever’s coming our way, we’ve got the wisdom behind the report and follow-up and guidance if we need it.”

Pen Pals: When a temporary shelter in Gonzalez, La., filled to capacity with animals rescued from Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Dixon Correctional Institute officials offered to help. Soon, hundreds of animals were on their way to a converted dairy barn on prison grounds, where inmates walked dogs and even played Frisbee. “A lot of guys really enjoyed it,” says warden Steve Rader. “They said, ‘If you ever get dogs, I want to work with them again!’”

Now, thanks to a $600,000 HSUS grant and help from the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, the prison is the site of an emergency-evacuation facility and animal shelter for East Feliciana parish strays. Providing training for prison staff as well as a refuge for homeless pets in a parish that previously didn’t have a shelter, the program reflects The HSUS’s ongoing commitment to assist pet owners in post-disaster recovery.

Yes, They Had Some Chihuahuas: “When I first got him, they were calling him Dr. Death because he just looked so bad,” says Erin Long-Scott, who adopted the dog now known as Lovie. One of 158 animals removed from substandard conditions by The HSUS and Kern County Animal Control in California, the Chihuahua’s teeth were so decayed that a Sacramento SPCA veterinary had to pull all but one.

The SPCA is one of 100-plus organizations in The HSUS’s Placement Partner program, which cares for victims of large cruelty cases investigated by The HSUS and law enforcement agencies. Partners like the Sacramento SPCA join a “collaborative effort that’s key to improving the lives of animals in our community,” says executive director Rick Johnson.

Today, Lovie loves to chew on oranges in Long-Scott’s yard. During cold weather, he rushes outside to sit under the dryer vent for a warm-air “massage.” His jaw’s a little crooked, but he smiles a lot.
Delivered from Danger

White skulls and decaying bodies dotted the terrain, while the trees offered another haunting reminder of just how bad things had gotten on this desolate Texas farm. The horses were so starved, so desperate, they had taken to chewing the bark off the trunks.

In December, The HSUS stepped in and helped authorities seize 43 horses from the property—one of several major rescues in 2010. More than 20 horses were placed in new homes, while 14 were sent to foster trainers. The HSUS helped dozens of other horses find second chances in 2010. In May, a tractor trailer transporting 30 animals, later fostered by Blaze’s board member Desiree Walling on her Calumet farm. On the night of the spring equinox, a mare named Catori, who was pregnant at the time, gave birth. Named for the “super-moon” blazing in the sky that night, Moonstruck serves as “a symbol of hope and rebirth and the survival of all of these horses,” Armstrong says.

Also last year, The HSUS assisted the Cabell- Wayne Animal Shelter with the rescue of 49 starving and neglected horses, mules, and donkeys from a West Virginia property. Seven months later, 114 horses were seized from the overrun Arkansas property of a horse trader and auctioneer. The HSUS and ASPCA devoted many resources to caring for the rescued horses at an abandoned livestock auction, as they awaited a final court disposition with hopes of taking custody and holding an adoption fair. A rancher later provided temporary sanctuary throughout the legal process.

Beyond rescues and adoptions, The HSUS has found other ways to help horses, like teaming with the American Competitive Trail Horse Association for a weekend of benefit trail rides around the U.S. The group raised $70,000 from the event, then donated the money to The HSUS, which in turn awarded grants to horse rescue organizations.

Progress for Horses

Hal Bowden will never forget the sight.

When he adopted John Henry, the abused and underweight Tennessee walking horse suffered telltale signs of soring—the cruel practice whereby trainers cause intense pain in an effort to exaggerate the breed’s high-stepping gait and thus gain an unfair edge in shows. For starters, John Henry’s heels had been cut out, and there were three lines of scars across his ankles.

Fast forward three years, and as part of a lengthy rehabilitation process, Bowden had brought John Henry to a North Carolina show to see how the horse would react to the setting. Returning to the barn after dinner, he got his answer: There was John Henry, cowering, covered in a cold sweat.

“To tell you the honest truth, I just cried, and I just went and held him for awhile,” Bowden says, adding: “I’ll never forget that big old horse, standing in the corner of that stall, trembling in fear.”

Today, John Henry’s hooves have grown back to normal, he’s more trusting of people, and his adopter promises walking horses’ naturally smooth gait. To bring justice to those who would cause such suffering, The HSUS has been pushing for better enforcement of a 1970 law against soring. In March 2010, a bipartisan group of 40 senators and 131 representatives supported President Obama’s request for the first-ever increase in funding for Horse Protection Act enforcement, from $500,000 to $900,000 during fiscal 2011. Although Congress ultimately did not pass the president’s budget, The HSUS will keep up the fight, and President Obama has again requested the $400,000 increase for fiscal 2012—a request backed by more than 100 representatives.

“We’re still seeing a lot of soring being detected in the field, and we’re still not seeing as many USDA inspectors attending shows as we would like,” says Keith Dana, HSUS director of equine protection.

Changes announced in 2010 by the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service could help, including hiring, training, and licensing independent inspectors. The announcement followed a recommendation from the USDA’s Office of the Inspector General that APHIS abolish its current problematic inspection system.

Among other horse protection efforts, The HSUS has continued pressing for more humane and effective treatment of wild horses and burros, who are viewed as foraging competition for livestock and other grazing wildlife. In February of this year, the Bureau of Land Management announced it was accelerating “fundamental reforms” to its system of rounding up the animals via helicopter and placing them in long-term holding facilities. Implemented on a two-year trial basis, the changes include increasing the number of mares treated with the fertility control drug PZP from 500 to 2,000, and reducing the number of wild horses removed annually from 10,000 to 7,600.

The reforms have been met with mixed reviews. “We’re praising the BLM for the efforts that they’re making to change the status quo and to fix the broken program,” says Stephanie Boyles, wildlife scientist at The HSUS. At the same time, she says the organization will continue to push for even more use of PZP.
19 state measures are enacted against wildlife abuses such as poaching, the exotic pet trade, and captive shooting

National shark finning ban is strengthened

Arizonans uphold their right to launch citizen initiatives on wildlife protection issues

The Truth in Fur Labeling Act is signed into federal law

Florida prohibits fox and coyote penning operations

Deaths in Canada’s seal hunt plummet to less than 20 percent of government quota

Sea lion killings are halted and North Atlantic right whales gain protections

Proposals to lift the commercial whaling ban are defeated; trade protections are gained for elephants, tree frogs, and other species

These baby seals are subjected to unimaginable suffering. The sealing industry would like the brutality to remain a secret, for the killing to happen out of public view. But we can’t let that happen. The tragic deaths of these defenseless animals will ultimately bring down the industry. As the images of this cruelty are broadcast around the world, global markets for seal products are closing, and consumers are taking action to stop the slaughter.

—Humane Society International Canada director Rebecca Aldworth, reporting live from the ice during her 12th year documenting the hunt
The HSUS 2010 Annual Report

The HSUS

reappearing on runways, he says. Some designers see
or otherwise killed for clothing, animal fur has been
consumers who don’t want animals to be skinned alive
high-quality faux fur is more and more in demand by

It inspired me so much that I wanted to take that enthusiasm and express it to my fellow designers.

—Fashion designer John Bartlett, describing an initial meeting with HSUS staff that sparked his fur-free leadership

“They are not thinking about the reality of the carnage
that’s involved,” Bartlett says. “Many designers don’t
know where their fur’s coming from or even what kind
of animal it’s coming from.” The new law, which took
effect in March, forces them to find out, he says.

Retailers are getting the message as well. In response
to an HSUS lawsuit, companies including Saks Fifth
Aviation, Bloomingdale’s, and Lord & Taylor agreed to
reform their labeling and advertising policies. Saks and
Bloomingdale’s also joined Macy’s and Andrew Marc in
agreeing to endorse the Truth in Fur Labeling Act, while a
judgment was entered against Neiman Marcus in the case.

In September, a quick response by thousands of HSUS
members—many of them fans of our Facebook page—
helped persuade Talbots to reverse its decision to
reintroduce animal fur after a decade of being fur-free.

It remains one of more than 300 designers, brands, and
retailers that do not sell fur, including Ralph Lauren,
Liz Claiborne, Tommy Hilfiger, and Calvin Klein.

With the passage of the Truth in Fur Labeling Act,
that number should grow, says Bartlett. “Now the
consumer will know more, and I think the design world
the animals in a series of lawsuits.

The HSUS has successfully defended
Endangered Species Act protection,

wolves were once nearly hunted to
bloodthirsty predators, America’s gray
wolves are once nearly hunted to
extinction. In the years since they gained
Endangered Species Act protection,
The HSUS has successfully defended
the animals in a series of lawsuits.

In August 2010, The HSUS and 12
other organizations helped gain yet
another court-ordered reprieve for the
Northern Rockies population, staving off
Montana’s and Idaho’s plans for public
hunts. Judge Donald Molloy declared
the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service could
not remove federal protections in those
two states while upholding them in
neighboring Wyoming.

In 2011, ESA protections for Idaho
and Montana wolves fell victim to a
 provision slipped into a congressional
budget bill by hostile interests. The
HSUS will continue to monitor the
situation closely and carry on the fight.

First Responders for Urban Wildlife

Crisscrossing the Washington, D.C., area, The HSUS’s Humane Wildlife Services team last year rescued more than 1,300 urban animals from

harmed while providing homeowners with long-lasting solutions to wildlife conflicts. Staff united orphaned mallard ducklings with
another mother’s brood, coached contractors on salvaging a woodpecker nest cavity from a chopped-down tree, and persuaded a
homeowner to postpone evicting a chimney-dwelling raccoon family

until the babies were older. The team also saved a maternal bat colony

at the historic Oaklands Plantation in Virginia. After the baby-rearing season, they climbed nearly 40 feet up ladders to install netting that
allowed the bats to safely exit the roosting area but not return.

These alternatives to lethal tactics and forced relocation are
now being implemented on a large scale in the District of Columbia
with passage of the precedent-setting D.C. Wildlife Protection Act.

Testimony from our field team was critical in rebutting industry arguments that humane resolutions aren’t possible.

Further afield, our wildlife specialists helped more than 30 commu-
nities resolve conflicts with Canada geese, deer, beavers, and coyotes.

In Maryland, staff partnered with a developer to move box turtles
from the path of construction; hazing and other nonlethal techniques
provoked animals such as foxes and woodchucks to move on their own.

And The HSUS worked alongside advocates to protest a deadly
goose roundup near the Madison, Wis., airport. Car parts salesman
Nathan Phoenix started a Facebook group, enlistng pilots and long-
time goose hunters in the birds’ defense. As HSUS Wisconsin state
director Alyson Bodai notes, Phoenix is “a prime example of how
effective people can be when they put their mind to something
and get involved.”
Wild Revival

As field ornithologists John and Sue Gregoire gazed over the barren terrain surrounding their new property in western New York, they were profoundly disturbed by the absence of native plants and animals. “You could see forever, from one end of the property to the other,” says John Gregoire. “It was that open and bare.”

They set about on a mission to restore the setting to provide food, water, and shelter for wildlife. Over the next 25 years, they planted more than 10,000 trees and built a diversity of habitats. Their 60-acre property is now a vibrant wildlife sanctuary rich with regenerating fields, thick stands of pine trees for owls and other animals, and ponds offering predictions of depth and native vegetation. They’ve sheltered more than 200 bird species there, as well as bears, deer, bats, coyotes, and other animals.

But even as their forested property flourishes with life, the surrounding landscape bears evidence of the destruction caused by large-scale dairy farms. To feed their animals and reduce the amount of waste stored in massive manure lagoons, these operations raze natural habitats and spread manure over thousands of acres. The resulting monoculture of feed crops creates a stranglehold on biodiversity.

To protect their property from such a fate and designate it as permanent wildlife habitat, the couple gained a conservation easement through the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust. In 2010, joining 103 other properties in the trust’s 15,000-acre portfolio. Known as the Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory, the property has become an inviting migratory stopover and year-round sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. “I feel like we’ve really done something positive,” John Gregoire says. “And perhaps the most positive is knowing that it will always be that way.”

New Digs for Embattled Species: Under cover of pre-dawn darkness, HSUS environmental scientist Lindsey Sterling Krank embarked on an unusual series of moving days last July: the mass relocation of black-tailed prairie dogs into protected grasslands.

Persecuted and decimated by disease, the species—and the other creatures who depend on it—faces significant threats to survival. So when a landowner near Wyoming’s Thunder Basin National Grassland wanted the two colonies near his home, a U.S. Forest Service biologist approached The HSUS for help. A groundbreaking partnership ensued, and 550 prairie dogs were humanely relocated from two colonies out of freshly dug holes to chirp and roam.

Ruthless “Recreation”: They couldn’t ignore what was going on in their state: dogs set loose on wild-caught foxes and coyotes trapped inside fences. So they rose up and joined The HSUS in persuading the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to take a stand.

They were people like Cristin Tank and her family, who lived next to a fox and coyote pen, and Ron Wentworth, who promoted a ban to anyone who would listen. In September, commissioners unan imously outlawed pens, with chairman Rodney Barreto noting, “I think Florida needs to end this and we need to end this now.” More than 50 pens had operated in the state at the peak of this inhumane “sport.”

Footage of a different form of cruelty elicited outrage in South Carolina: hounds being released to harass a black bear chained to a pole before a large audience. Calls for a ban poured in while HSUS staff pushed state officials to act. Says The HSUS’s undercover investigator: “How can you not be disgusted by this spectacle?”

Curtailing a Cruel Trade: With their skins fashioned into home decor and their tusks carved into necklaces, some of the world’s most magnificent animals also face the gravest dangers.

Every three years, special inter ests conspire to further decimate the earth’s natural treasures during debates at the U.N. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. But among the ivory carvers, fur traders, trophy hunters, and exotic pet dealers, a powerful voice has emerged: the Species Survival Network, a global coalition cofounded by Humane Society International’s Teresa Telecky.

Last year the group gained or ests consensus for a range of species, including African elephants, Central American tree frogs, and great green macaws. Critically en dangered Kaiser’s spotted newts have been poached for the pet trade, and professor Moizafar Shariﬁ proposed the ﬁrst by an Iranian scientist—it prompted an interna tional commercial trade ban. “It’s very exciting to see that your knowledge can be linked to practical conservation practices,” he says.

Wolverine Watch

Wolverines have been spotted play fully tumbling down alpine slopes—but can also win starring contests with grizzlies over food and scale mountains that would defeat the hardiest of humans. Author and Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust supporter Douglas Chadwick has noted their unlikely strength: “Trying to keep up with them amounts to constant adventure in a world of avalanches, blizzards, sheer cliff faces, patches of thin lake ice, sub-zero moonlit ski trips, marathon hikes, cliff walls with tiny handholds, and big silver-tipped bears,” says Chadwick, shown above in blue, helping to remove an anesthetized animal from a humane trap.

Partially funded by the Wildlife Land Trust, the multiyear Glacier Wolverine Project conducted by Chadwick and other researchers revealed that the little-studied animals are vulnerable to the warming of their Montana high country home. Though the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service denied them protection in December 2010, the study—and Chadwick’s subsequent book, The Wolverine Way—should help make the case for the habitat connectivity and trapping restrictions necessary for their survival.
Seal Hunt Death Rattle: For more than a dozen years, Rebecca Aldworth, director of Humane Society International Canada, has documented the heartbreak of Canada’s annual commercial seal hunt, when pups as young as 12 days old are shot and clubbed to death for their pelts. The only salve for the emotional wound is the knowledge that the relentless quest to end the brutal hunt is paying off. While the legal catch limit rises every year, the actual take is plummeting. The Canadian government set the 2010 quota at 388,200 seals, yet 69,184 were killed and fewer sealers participated. Spurred by footage and persuasive arguments from The HSUS and HSI, the EU’s ban on seal products, which took effect Feb. 1, 2010, has driven pelt prices to a record low and saved more than half of Canadian seafood—joined by 5,500 chefs, restaurants, and grocery stores worldwide—sends a clear message that the hunt’s days are numbered.

Shark Finning Out of Bounds: Tens of millions of sharks are killed each year to supply the market for shark fin soup. Many of them are victims of finning: Fishermen cut off the fins, then toss the bodies back overboard. Essentially paralyzed, the sharks typically die from suffocation, starvation, or predation. “It’s like cutting off your limbs and leaving you to bleed to death,” says Rebecca Regnery, deputy director of wildlife at Humane Society International. But the sharks in U.S. waters recently gained more protection from the brutal practice after President Obama signed the Shark Conservation Act into law. That measure, which requires fishermen catching sharks to bring them to port with fins still attached, closed loopholes in the country’s previous ban on finning. It was a victory for the animals and their ecosystem, where sharks play an important role at the top of the food chain. Just as important, it gave advocates a stronger hand in negotiating increased protections with the EU and nations such as Australia and Indonesia. As Regnery says: “It’s hard to try to convince other countries to clean up their act when you have problems in your own country.” State legislation passed in Hawaii last year went even further, after The HSUS and HSI worked with state Sen. Clayton Hee on a ground-breaking measure to ban the possession, sale, and distribution of shark fins in the Aloha State. “Legislation like that had never even been introduced anywhere,” says Regnery. Hawaii’s stance helped kick-start a trend. Washington State, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands have since passed similar measures.

Safe Harbor for Whales: It took the death of a SeaWorld trainer, but in 2010 the government and media finally started listening to arguments against the captive display of orcas. Naomi Rose, senior scientist for Humane Society International, gave congressional testimony in April, two months after Tilikum killed trainer Dawn Brancheau in Orlando. The orca was previously involved in the deaths of two other people. “No matter how big the tank looks, it’s a kennel to this large, wide-ranging predator,” says Rose. In August 2010, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued SeaWorld a citation, which the company will appeal at a September hearing. Meanwhile, in March 2011, after 13 months in a back tank, Tilikum was brought out to perform again. Also in 2010, HSI successfully fought to maintain an International Whaling Commission moratorium on commercial whale hunting. And following litigation by The HSUS, the National Marine Fisheries Service agreed to propose expanding critical habitat for the 400 remaining North Atlantic right whales.

Stopping Reef Raiders: Some of the most beautiful fish and corals on the planet are threatened by illegal-seeking “reef sharks,” who从事 the illegal harvesting of fish for home aquariums. Hawaiian diver Robert Wintner’s death of a SeaWorld trainer, but in 2010 the government and media finally started listening to arguments against the captive display of orcas. Naomi Rose, senior scientist for Humane Society International, gave congressional testimony in April, two months after Tilikum killed trainer Dawn Brancheau in Orlando. The orca was previously involved in the deaths of two other people. “No matter how big the tank looks, it’s a kennel to this large, wide-ranging predator,” says Rose. In August 2010, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued SeaWorld a citation, which the company will appeal at a September hearing. Meanwhile, in March 2011, after 13 months in a back tank, Tilikum was brought out to perform again. Also in 2010, HSI successfully fought to maintain an International Whaling Commission moratorium on commercial whale hunting. And following litigation by The HSUS, the National Marine Fisheries Service agreed to propose expanding critical habitat for the 400 remaining North Atlantic right whales.

Going to Court for Sea Lions: Along the pristine waters of Oregon’s Columbia River, California’s sea lions are branded and then monitored for their salmon consumption. In 2008, wildlife officials began killing sea lions who they decided had eaten too many fish. A few were sent to 2010, Wintner, other advocates, and The HSUS’s Hawaii office urged the Maui County Council to pass the nation’s first anti-cruelty laws regulating the aquarium trade. Now Maui-based collectors, wholesalers, and retailers must report the number of fish who die. And collectors are barred from piercing fishes’ organs with needles, withholding food for more than 24 hours during transport, and cutting their spines or fins. Humane Society International hopes to gain similar protections elsewhere, says Teresa Telecky, director of wildlife. “Many people in the trade see mortality as the way business is run.”
5 states strengthen laws against animal fighting
6,389 animals are helped by The HSUS’s work on animal fighting raids and investigations
1,300+ law enforcement officials are trained in animal fighting and cruelty investigations
300 prosecutors and 100 judges attend seminars on the complexities of animal fighting and cruelty cases
835 calls are made to the animal fighting tip line; 24 rewards are paid for information leading to arrests
The End Dogfighting program—a comprehensive approach to combat urban dogfighting—launches in Philadelphia
470+ schoolchildren participate in an eight-week anti-dogfighting humane education course

[ Ending Animal Fighting ]

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[ HSUS teams] made it a lot easier and a lot less stressful to do this. [They were] a can-do, ‘we’re-going-to-get-it-done’ group of people. You could tell they were focused, they were interested in what they were doing, and it meant a lot to them to do it. And that’s what we’re looking at for people who are going to help us.

—Lt. Jim Burriss, describing how The HSUS helped the Greenville County (S.C.) Sheriff’s Office investigate and raid a notorious cockfighting pit
The Good Fight

“This program is about the dogs,” says Ralph Hawthorne, community organizer for The HSUS’s End Dogfighting program in Atlanta. “But it’s just as much about the people, and helping them through the life changes that they experience while we’re working with them.”

In 2010, The HSUS continued reaching out to communities plagued by dogfighting, working to bond owners and pit bulls and change perceptions of a misunderstood group of dogs. The End Dogfighting program expanded its work in Chicago and Atlanta while launching in a third location, the Hunting Park neighborhood in North Philadelphia.

“It’s a city that’s very much in need, as are most of the large cities across the country,” says Amanda Arrington, associate director of The HSUS’s Building Humane Communities Program. In more than a dozen other cities, The HSUS helped groups plan their own End Dogfighting programs.

In Atlanta, one success story was the transformation of DeAndre Weaver. He’d fought pit bulls for four years, since age 16, until a dog he had grown close to was killed in a fight. “That’s what really opened up my eyes,” Weaver says. But the agility and obedience skills learned in HSUS classes provide options: “They want to impress people with their dogs, so now we have a positive way to impress people.”

The training sessions are just one aspect of a campaign that also includes humane education and community outreach focused on pet wellness and spay/neuter. Canines & Communities, an eight-session anti-dogfighting curriculum featuring mock game shows and field trips to animal shelters, reached more than 470 Chicago and Atlanta youths in 2010. At a summer camp, 13 kids helped produce In the Company of Dogs, a video featuring a rap song written by 15-year-old Demetrius Ware about canine care and approaching dogs safely.

The Law on Our Side

When John Goodwin recalls the June 2010 raid of a suspected cockfighting operation in Tennessee, what stands out in his mind even more than the 100 people charged and the 150 birds seized is the image of a little girl crying amidst the chaos. “Her sorry dad brought her to a cockfight that got raided, and then he started just yelling at her and chastising her for being upset,” says Goodwin, HSUS director of animal cruelty policy.

Last year, Goodwin and fellow HSUS experts helped law enforcement officials bust 33 animal fighting operations, while their advocacy work focused on preventing cruelty in the first place: Minnesota and Nebraska banned animal fighting paraphernalia, Delaware increased penalties for animal fighting participants and spectators, Illinois strengthened penalties for dogfighting near schools, and Louisiana outlawed attendance at a cockfight.

The immediate rewards of the campaign and investigative work—animals freed from suffering and perpetrators facing heavy fines or even jail time—are significant, but the long-term effects are equally important, says Goodwin. “These people have to be shut down because they’re teaching a whole generation that it’s OK to be cruel.”

Out of the Ring, Into Loving Homes

What started as a narcotics bust at a southeastern Ohio home soon turned into one of the largest seizures for alleged dogfighting ever documented on a single property. Last August, when The HSUS was asked to assist law enforcement with an investigation involving nearly 200 pit bulls, teams arrived to find more than 500 animals, including chickens, roosters, boars, hawks, and the desiccated remains of starved-to-death snakes. Weighted down by logging chains attached to buried car axles, many of the dogs had no shelter and suffered from mange, ringworm, infected wounds, and broken bones.

Help came from volunteers, including more than 30 from Pittsburgh-based Hello Bully. The HSUS’s new mobile crime lab served as a space for treatment and evidence collection. A horse arena served as a shelter and suffered from mange, ringworm, infected wounds, and broken bones.
We are gratified to serve as the emergency shelter and headquarters for the rescue. I can’t say enough about the HSUS staff who made it happen. With poise, power, and grace, they harnessed and coordinated a fairly darn complex set of logistical, legal, and communications issues. Pets Alive performed spay/neuter surgeries yesterday on nine of the rescued dogs. They will never be forced to breed again.

—James McNamara, former executive director of the Pets Alive spay/neuter clinic in Indiana, which helped The HSUS with a December rescue

[ Shutting Down Puppy Mills ]

► 3 states that produce more than half the puppies sold in U.S. pet stores—Missouri, Oklahoma, and Iowa—enact laws to crack down on abusive commercial breeding operations

► 677 dogs and 9 other animals are saved from squalor and neglect by HSUS teams deployed to puppy mill raids; staff assist local authorities in an additional 4 raids involving 544 dogs

► A 1,000-store milestone is reached when hundreds more retailers take the Puppy Friendly Pet Stores Pledge not to sell puppies
Feet bloodied from wire cages. Rotten teeth. Skin and eye and ear infections. Parasites. Bones protruding. And in the case of Tessa (shown below), hair so matted that his back legs were tangled together, toenails so overgrown they curled into her foot pads, and gum disease so severe that all but one of her teeth were eventually pulled.

These are the symptoms of weak laws that allow the puppy mill industry to flourish unchecked. The cure is clear—better laws to regulate the 10,000 mass breeding operations across the nation. But getting those laws approved is a state-by-state battle.

In 2010, The HSUS won one of its greatest victories: citizens’ approval of a measure to require breeders in Missouri, the state with the most puppy mills, to keep no more than 50 breeding dogs and give them adequate food, water, shelter, space, exercise, veterinary care, and rest between breeding cycles. Winning passage of the new law involved collecting more than 190,000 signatures to get the measure on the ballot and combating a smear campaign by the Missouri Farm Bureau.

As soon as Proposition B passed in November, state legislators set about trying to undo it; five months later, Gov. Jay Nixon signed a repeal bill and enacted what legislators set about trying to undo it; five months later, Gov. Jay Nixon signed a repeal bill and enacted what the surviving Prop B protections, hold officials accountable for their stated support of strong enforcement, and launch a 2012 ballot initiative to preserve citizen-approved laws.

“Who Rescued Whom?: The treatment of dogs at the hands of puppy millers “hurt my heart and my feelings,” says 12-year-old Micah Staub, who has made it his mission to help care for those rescued from cruel mass breeding operations. Micah’s learning disabilities have often led to teasing from other kids, but he found acceptance and fulfillment working with 30 of the 122 dogs removed from nightmare conditions by the HSUS Maddie’s Fund Puppy Mill Task Force in December. In recognition of his hard work, Micah was made an honorary task force member. His pride was a boon for a boy who “gets so few things that he can be proud of,” says his mother.

In addition to the Bloomfield, Ind., raid—described by one participant as “three days of … animal welfare shock and awe”—the task force took part in four other puppy mill raids in 2010, saving 677 dogs from misery.

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“Newfound Friends: Finn is a little brown dog who carries a big stick: His best friend happens to be Amanda Hearst of the Hearst publishing family. She purchased Finn from a Manhattan pet store, unaware that he was born to a puppy mill mother who had probably never left her filthy cage or felt a loving touch. Shaken when she learned this, Hearst visited HSUS-rescued puppy mill dogs and saw for herself the results of chronic neglect and abuse. “It’s shocking that anyone can rationalize that,” she says. Hearst founded Friends of Finn, asking her other best friends, including Georgina Bloomberg, Dylan Lauren, Kick Kennedy, and Annie Churchill Albert, to join her in putting puppy mills out of business. Selling tables and soliciting auction items for The HSUS’s Make History Gala in New York City, Friends of Finn helped raise $1 million to support our campaign to shut down puppy mills.

The Most Important Battle Yet

Feet bloodied from wire cages. Rotten teeth. Skin and eye and ear infections. Parasites. Bones protruding. And in the case of Tessa (shown below), hair so matted that his back legs were tangled together, toenails so overgrown they curled into her foot pads, and gum disease so severe that all but one of her teeth were eventually pulled.

These are the symptoms of weak laws that allow the puppy mill industry to flourish unchecked. The cure is clear—better laws to regulate the 10,000 mass breeding operations across the nation. But getting those laws approved is a state-by-state battle.

In 2010, The HSUS won one of its greatest victories: citizens’ approval of a measure to require breeders in Missouri, the state with the most puppy mills, to keep no more than 50 breeding dogs and give them adequate food, water, shelter, space, exercise, veterinary care, and rest between breeding cycles. Winning passage of the new law involved collecting more than 190,000 signatures to get the measure on the ballot and combating a smear campaign by the Missouri Farm Bureau.

As soon as Proposition B passed in November, state legislators set about trying to undo it; five months later, Gov. Jay Nixon signed a repeal bill and enacted what legislators set about trying to undo it; five months later, Gov. Jay Nixon signed a repeal bill and enacted what the surviving Prop B protections, hold officials accountable for their stated support of strong enforcement, and launch a 2012 ballot initiative to preserve citizen-approved laws.

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Providing Sanctuary & Healing

Orphaned fox kits. A mule on the edge of starvation. A pygmy hippo scarred by neglect. A chimpanzee retired from a research laboratory. A swan suffering from lead poisoning. A horse rescued from slaughter. Different species with different stories, but all with the same happy outcome: cared for by skilled, loving hands at one of The HSUS’s five animal care centers.

Each year, they arrive by the thousands. Some are rescued from abusive or neglectful circumstances, while others have fallen victim to urban dangers—hit by cars, wounded by flying objects—or have been suddenly orphaned. At the centers, they receive the highest level of treatment from expert staff and volunteers. Once nurtured back to health, they embark on the next leg of their journey, whether that’s a release back into nature, or a lifelong home at the sanctuary or with an adoptive family.

Staff at our care centers give these animals the life and dignity they deserve, while our campaign staff work toward ending the intentional cruelty and accidental suffering that brought them to us in the first place. There are so many successes, and we celebrate each one.

The Fund for Animals Wildlife Center

Creature Comforts: Samson the lion tackled his toy, pinning it between his great front paws and uttering satisfied roars. It was fall in Southern California and staff at The HSUS’s Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona had rolled out pumpkins for the big cats—an ongoing strategy of letting them chase, pounce, and chew unexpected treats.

Last year, center staff cared for nearly 400 injured and orphaned wild animals, in addition to permanent residents like Samson, a victim of the exotic pet trade. Among the long-term guests are 44 feral cats from San Nicolas—animals who would have been killed if The HSUS hadn’t relocated them from the federally owned island. As staff try to train and adopt them out, the animals roam a 4,000-square-foot enclosure with trees, rocks, logs, and plank walkways: not the wild, but close.

South Florida Wildlife Center

Piecing Them Back Together: Veterinary student Alycia Monopoli went to Home Depot to buy screws for a remodeling project—repairing a turtle’s broken shell.

Cape Wildlife Center

Love at First Flight: Staff at The HSUS’s Cape Wildlife Center put on their matchmaking hats when treating a mule swan who’d been found on the side of a road, flapping his wings to protect his gravely injured mate. His partner couldn’t be saved, but antibiotics helped the male swan recover from a joint infection. Staff introduced him to another female mending at the Barnstable, Mass., facility, and the pair bonded, even calling to each other when separated. On a cold, clear day in January 2010, they were released into the sky.

Birds account for more than half of the animals treated at the center, located along a major migratory route. In 2010, more than 1,400 orphaned and injured creatures from all over Cape Cod were cared for by our dedicated staff.

Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch

Saved from Starvation: Deputy Eric Ward had never before seen an animal cruelty case involving deer—until last January.

A 19-year-old man had been keeping five deer on a Henderson County, Texas, farm as part of a school agricultural project. But after he began neglecting the animals, police were contacted. “They looked like they were starving to death,” Ward says, “and they were.” The deer were removed from the property and eventually sent to the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch, a 1,250-acre HSUS sanctuary in nearby Murchison. The doe was so malnourished that she died before the transfer, but the buck and three fawns now live together on a 35-acre plot at the ranch—four of the more than 1,200 animals, from chimpanzees to an ostrich, to receive care at the facility in 2010.

Duchess Sanctuary

Tranquil Refuge: At 5 feet 6 inches, she’s one of the tallest “girls” living at The HSUS’s 1,120-acre Duchess Sanctuary, a friendly draft horse who, despite growing up untrained, is easy to handle. Like many of the 185 other formerly abused or abandoned horses on the Oregon property, 9-year-old Allie came very close to becoming meat. She once lived on a Canadian farm, kept so her urine could be collected for a hormone used in a drug called Premarin. When demand for the drug dropped, Allie was nearly sold for slaughter. Rescued in 2005, she was one of the original horses sent to Duchess at its opening in 2008. On hilly pastures, mares from the Premarin farms graze with their equine companions. In 2010, the young sanctuary built its second winter shelter.
Securing Their Retirement

For chimpanzees in research labs, life is a cage lacking natural light, with loud sounds amplified by concrete walls, the smell of chemical cleaners, and brief episodes of terror when researchers do experiments. No amount of “enrichment”—toys or treats—can make up for the boredom, loneliness, and fear of existing in the equivalent of a prison cell.

“The lab environment is an insult,” says Rachel Weiss, who used to work at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center in Atlanta. “It’s not OK, and there’s no way to make it OK.”

In 2010, The HSUS continued pushing to have the nearly 1,000 chimps in U.S. labs moved to sanctuaries, where they can live in conditions simulating their wild forest homes. In a significant victory for animal protection groups, the National Institutes of Health reversed its plan to bring approximately 190 chimpanzees at New Mexico’s Alamogordo Primate Facility out of semiretirement. Following the delivery of 25,000 letters from HSUS supporters, plus HSUS president and CEO Wayne Pacelle’s appearance at a press conference with New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, agency officials announced the animals would not be used for invasive tests until a review of chimpanzee research is completed.

At the same time, The HSUS released additional findings about the New Iberia Research Center in Louisiana, where a 2009 undercover investigation revealed more than 300 alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act. In 2010, after discovering the center appeared to be violating an NIH ban on breeding federally owned chimpanzees—with 14 of the infant chimps born there mauled to death—The HSUS petitioned the federal government to stop this taxpayer-supported breeding.

“I was sick,” says Jan McDaniel of her reaction to the undercover video taken at New Iberia. And when the Athens, Texas, woman gets angry, she doesn’t just stew about it; she acts. So she called The HSUS and ended up pledging $100,000 to the Chimps Deserve Sanctuary Fund—half to be used for policy work and half to help pay for chimp retirement. “This will be well-spent if it will free those apes so they won’t have to suffer at the hands of humans,” she says. “If it will free those innocents.”

A federal bill originally introduced in 2009 would require their freedom by retiring the 500 federally owned chimps to sanctuaries. After receiving the support of 167 cosponsors in Congress, the proposed law was introduced again in 2011 as the Great Ape Protection Act.

“We have a lot of public support,” says Kathleen Conlee, HSUS senior director for animal research issues. “It’s not a matter of whether it’s going to pass; it’s when.”

The HSUS also worked to get companies that have tested on chimpanzees to pay for chimp retirement. “This will be well-spent if it will free those apes so they won’t have to suffer at the hands of humans,” she says. “If it will free those innocents.”

Poring over government records and published studies, The HSUS is prying open the closed doors of university research labs—and uncovering countless examples of animals who suffer and die needlessly. By the end of 2010, more than 60 universities and colleges had responded to our campaign urging them to adopt policies that prohibit severe animal suffering. For the holdouts, we’re mobilizing students, faculty, alumni, and other stakeholders to press for change. “They don’t need to have an animal suffering severely to learn what they are seeking to learn,” says The HSUS’s Kathleen Conlee. “This is a commonsense thing we’re asking institutions to do.”

Say No to Suffering: They’re not the kind of incidents that universitites publicize: the mice found alive in freezers after botched euthanasia attempts. The animals who’ve overheated and died when anti-quieted temperature regulation systems failed. The monkeys who’ve languished in extreme pain for weeks during virus studies.

A Revolution in Chemical Testing: People are exposed to as many as 100,000 chemicals in the modern environment. Maybe 4 percent have been adequately tested for safety. That’s primarily because conventional methods—using animals—are slow and expensive. They’re also inhumane, likely causing the suffering and deaths of millions of animals each year in the U.S. alone. In November 2010, The HSUS and partners gathered government, academic, and industry experts in Washington, D.C., to build support for a proposed 15-year, $2 to $3 billion Human Toxicology Project. Modeled on the Human Genome Project and based on recommendations from a National Academy of Sciences’ report, the massive animal-free undertaking would focus on high-speed automated tests on human cells and tissues. These techniques would provide quicker, more accurate results.

Thomas Hartung, director of the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at Johns Hopkins University, says the project would be a watershed for science. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

EU Reforms Accelerated: Animal testing alternatives jumped on the fast-track with the 2010 launch of a groundbreaking collaboration between Humane Society International and leading scientists. The AXLIBR initiative is helping to spur a worldwide transition to animal-free safety testing using state-of-the-art human cell systems, robotics, and computer modeling, says HSI’s Troy Seidle.

HSI also helped secure EU approval of animal-free tests for detecting contaminants in shellfish, which will spare hundreds of thousands of animals from lethal poisoning tests. And years of work paid off in September when the EU passed new lab animal legislation that extends protections to more species, promotes alternatives, and requires a higher level of ethical review. As 2010 came to a close, HSI enlisted celebrity support for its Cruelty-Free 2013 campaign: Sporting an “End Animal Testing” temporary tattoo, singer Leona Lewis urged EU politicians to keep their promise to ban the sale of animal-tested cosmetics in 2013.
A Higher Calling: Megachurch pastors, best-selling authors, seminary professors—even CEOs like Michael Flaherty of Walden Media, which produced the Narnia movies—came together for a 2010 summit in Washington, D.C. After the meeting to introduce Christian leaders to The HSUS’s Faith Outreach Campaign, Flaherty was inspired to teach his children about animal protection, using the story in Charlotte’s Web. “They loved Charlotte’s bravery and sacrifice and pledged they would have done the same,” Flaherty says. “I told them that The Humane Society was full of two-legged Charlottes, people who understood the blessing of protecting animals.”

The campaign also produced a guide to animal protection ministries, such as attracting wildlife to church grounds and running low-cost pet care clinics. The guide’s writer, Lois Wye, is an attorney by day and a theological student by night. “We are called to be compassionate and merciful to animals,” she says. “We are likewise called to be compassionate and merciful to humans.”

Starring Roles: Winning an HSUS Genesis Award was “more valuable to me than winning an Oscar,” says Louise Psihoyos. His documentary The Cove exposed Japan’s dolphin slaughter and “catapulted this issue onto the world stage,” says Beverly Kaskey, senior director of the HSUS Hollywood Office. Family Guy and The Ellen DeGeneres Show were also among the winners in the annual ceremony.

Comedian and actor Hal Sparks stole the limelight at The HSUS’s 2010 Taking Action For Animals conference. Peppered with cutting jokes about factory farming, his monologue was cheered by hundreds of activists who’d come to learn the latest campaign strategies and recharge their batteries. It may have been an odd topic for a funnyman, but the committed advocate takes the subject very seriously. “I can’t find an angle on it, and I dare anyone else to, that actually supports it in any way,” he says.

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2010 Outreach

- 12,101,729 members and constituents support The HSUS’s work
- 7,634,509 people visit The HSUS’s website. 466,134 are our Facebook fans, and nearly 1.5 million online advocacy actions are taken
- HSUS videos receive more than 4 million viewings
- 2,341 advocates attend our Animal Care Expo and Taking Action for Animals conferences

2010 Annual Report

State by State

The HSUS’s state directors stand up for animals at their state capitols, network with grassroots campaigners, assist local shelters, and help with The HSUS’s field rescues. For more information, visit humanesociety.org/statecontacts

How You Can Help

Every gift you give, no matter how large or small, helps The HSUS protect more animals. Simply choose the method of support:
- Make a Kindred Spirits memorial donation, or a gift donation to celebrate a special occasion.
- Donate monthly through your credit card or bank account.
- Participate in your office’s workplace giving, matching gift, or United Way campaigns.
- Make a non-cash gift of vehicles, stocks, bonds, or timeshares; dedicate eBay proceeds to The HSUS; or create an I Do Foundation wedding registry benefiting us.
- Leave a legacy through charitable gift annuities, bequests, or insurance policies.
- To find out more—or to reach a regional Philanthropy officer about making a larger gift or supporting a specific program—call 1-800-808-7858, email gifts@humanesociety.org, or go to humanesociety.org/gifts.

“He was just skin and bones. I think he would have died that night or the next day if we hadn’t been there,” says The HSUS’s Adam Parascandola of the tiny black kitten removed with more than 150 other cats from an overcrowded Wyoming home in August. Powell was nursed back to health (above) at the Billings Animal Rescue Kare shelter. Your continued support will help many more animals like Powell in the coming year.
[ Financial Operations Report ]

For the Year Ending December 31, 2010

**Consolidated Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**

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**Financial Operations Report**

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